Distress Sale of Cattle by Farmers

*72. SHRI N.R. DASARI:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased state:

(a) whether it is a fact that scarcity of drinking water and fodder had triggered large scale distress sale of cattle by farmers in the drought affected districts of Anantapur, Cuddapah, Mahboobnagar and Medak; and

(b) if so, the details of the situation and what relief measures were taken by Government as well as State Government?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):(a) and (b) State Government has reported that there is no distress sale of cattle due to scarcity of fodder and water. It has reported that the usual practice of farmers is to sell every year their non-productive animals and maintain only productive animals during summer season. The State Government has taken steps to overcome this situation by arranging supplies of fodder, seed, cattle feed and mineral mixture at subsidised rates, besides supply of medicine, vaccines, and by organising cattle camps. The Central Government released the Central share of Rs. 107.69 crore for 1999-2000 and Rs. 77.78 crore for 2000-2001 under Calamity Relief Fund Scheme and Rs. 75.36 crore under National Fund for Calamity Relief in 1999-2000. The supply of fodder, water and running of cattle camps, are approved items of expenditure under the Central assistance. The Railways also made arrangements for transportation of fodder free of cost.

Safety Measures in the Installations of BARC

*73. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision that the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board will no longer be responsible for safety at all the installations of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what alternative arrangements have been made to check on safety measures in the installation of BARC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) With a view to ensuring safety in strategic activities, it has been decided that, similar to mechanisms adopted in other

Nuclear Weapon States (NWS), Nuclear Weapon States (NWS), regulatory and safety functions with respect to the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) and its facilities, hitherto exercised by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB), will now be exercised through the Internal Society Committee. Structure that has been constituted by the Director, BARC. While carrying out the above functions, BARC will, inter-alia, ensure compliance with the principles of good safety management as given in the relevant safety codes, guides, standards, etc. developed by AERB and the acceptable limits of radiation exposure to members of the public prescribed by AERB.

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister's observation on crossing LOC

*74. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the reported observation of the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir appearing in the Hindu dated 28th June, 2000, to the effect that Government should cross the Line of Control and retrieve the Pak-occupied Kashmir and to convert the Line of Control as international border.

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government agrees to the view point of the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir; and

(d) if not, whether the latter should be desisted from making such irresponsible statement?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (d) Government have seen the report dated 28th June, 2000 appearing in The Hindu.

The State of Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of the Indian Union. A part of the territory of the State remains under the illegal occupation of Pakistan.

Government is committed to the resolution of all outstanding issues with Pakistan through peaceful discussions as envisaged in the Simla Agreement and reaffirmed in the Lahore Declaration. These are the cornerstones of India Pakistan relations. The Line of Control, a treaty document, rooted in the Simla Agreement, is an important measure for the maintenance of peace and security. India has